

APPLY FOR RAILROADS

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WHALES WASHED ON BEACH.

TEN MILES LONG, FIFTEEN TO THIRTY FEET IN LENGTH, REPORTED AN EIGHT-HOUR FEAST.

On Shore at Folly Island, Thirty-five Years Since the Famous Charleston Whale Was Captured.

News and Courier.

Charlestonians have manifested an acute interest in the report by the keeper of the Charleston light on Morris Island yesterday that ten whales, from fifteen to thirty feet long, were ashore on the north end of Folly Island. Scores yesterday afternoon debated the practicability of making a trip to the spot today to see the unusual spectacle.

The headquarters of the lighthouse district here was notified yesterday by a messenger from Mr. H. L. Bringle, keeper of the Morris Island light, of the discovery by him of the depots of the deep. Mr. Bringle wrote a message to Mr. Sandford Bee, on James Island, who relayed it to Inspector Beck.

According to a statement by Mr. Bee the whales, and there seems to be little doubt that they are of the whale species, had been upon the beach for some time, judging from their condition when discovered. It was estimated that they had been there a week.

No plausible theory has been advanced to explain the presence of a large school of whales in these waters nor, granting its presence, has there been offered any explanation of the cause of all of the animals being cast upon land at one time in the same place.

Whales have been seen in these waters from time to time. The famous "Charleston whale," the skeleton of which is mounted at the museum, was captured in this harbor about thirty-five years ago, after an exciting struggle. About eight years ago a school of whales was seen by passengers on the Clyde Line Iroquois, from New York, after the steamer had passed Cape Hatteras. As recently as four years ago a whale was cast ashore on Cole's Island.

It was suggested yesterday that the carcasses cast up on Folly Island were of the species known to sailors as "black fish," which are of the whale family, but which differ from the baleen, or whale-bone whale. Reports of the presence of black fish in waters near Charleston have not been very rare, but as far as could be learned yesterday they have never been seen in as great a number as ten in one school. The four whales seen by passengers on the Iroquois were of this variety.

Prof. Paul M. Bee, director of the Charleston museum, said last night that it was impossible to make any definite statement as to the species on Folly Island, based on the meagre data that was at hand. If they are as long as thirty feet, as reported, he does not think that they are black fish, but it is possible that the length of the specimens was exaggerated. Specimens do not grow longer than from eight to ten feet, ordinarily, according to Dr. Bee, while the black fish is known to reach lengths of from fifteen to twenty feet. But, if the Folly Island specimens are as long as thirty feet, it is likely that they are of the whale-bone whale variety.

The "Charleston whale" was forty-two feet long in the flesh. It entered this harbor around the year 1880, before the Jetties were built. The channel at the entrance was small, and once inside, the big mammal could not find its way out to the sea. Members of the crews of vessels in the harbor attacked the whale, and it was finally killed. There was a wide interest in the affair at the time it happened. Men of the water front having it recalled by the report from Folly Island, talked over the details yesterday, apparently taking much pleasure in their recollections.

Mr. Sandford Bee said yesterday afternoon that he expected to operate a boat from James Island to Folly Island today, taking passengers who desired to see the ten whales, at 50 cents the trip. He said that motorists could reach his place from the city by a forty-five-minute run.

Folly Island is said to be inhabited only by one person, a man who lives at the southern end of the island. As the island is seven miles long and the whales were cast up on the northern beach, it is apparent why they were not discovered until yesterday. Mr. Bringle made a trip to Folly Island, which is south and to the rear of Morris Island, on other business and discovered the whales by accident.

Young Woman Jumps into Pond, But Is Pulled Out.

York, March 27.—Miss Janie Robinson, aged about twenty, a pretty young woman, who lives in the Cannon Mill village on the outskirts of York, attempted to take her own life about 7:30 yesterday morning by drowning herself in the pond at the mill. She was rescued from the waters before she had been in the pond more than a minute or two by several persons who chanced to be near the spot.

Persons who were passing noticed the young lady sitting on the bank of the pond with her little nephew. She had her hair down and her shoes off. A short while afterward they heard the little boy scream and then saw the young woman in the mill pond. Mr. P. M. Thrift and others hastened to the water and succeeded in pulling her out. She was a little bit strangled but further than that appeared to be none the worse for her experience.

She would give her rescuers no reason for attempting to end her life, and members of her family are unable to say why she attempted it.

KEEP THE GARDEN BUSY.

Twenty-five by Seventy Foot Plot Will Produce Enough Vegetables for a Small Family.

Even the smallest back yard may be made to yield a supply of fresh vegetables for the family table at but slight expense if two or three crops are successively grown to keep the area occupied all the time, according to the garden specialists of the department. People who would discharge a clerk if he did not work the year round will often cultivate a garden at no little trouble and expense and then allow the soil to lie idle from the time the first crop matures until the end of the season. Where a two or three crop system is used in connection with vegetables adapted to small areas, a space no larger than 25 by 70 feet will produce enough fresh vegetables for a small family. Corn, melons, cucumbers, and potatoes and other crops which require a large area should not be grown in a garden of this size. Half an acre properly cultivated with a careful crop rotation may easily produce \$100 worth of various garden crops in a year.

If the garden was not broken in the fall, it should be plowed in the spring as soon as the frost is out of the ground. Small areas may be worked with a spade, pushing the blade in to its full depth and turning the soil to break up the clods. Heavy soils should never be worked when wet. Overzealous gardeners, ready to seize the first warm spell as a favorable opportunity to go out and work the heavy clay soil before it is dry, are not only wasting their energy but are doing a damage to the soil from which it will take years for it to recover. To determine when heavy soils are ready for plowing, a handful of earth should be collected from the surface and the fingers tightly closed on it. If the ball of compacted earth is dry enough for cultivation, it will fall apart when the hand is opened.

A garden spot near the house is often more desirable than a plot which is in better till but located at an inconvenient distance. A garden which is near the house will receive many a spare hour of care from adults and children which would otherwise be wasted. Where there is ample room for the selection of a garden site, the slope of the land should be carefully considered. A gentle slope toward the South is most desirable for growing early crops, while it is a decided advantage to have the plot protected on the north and northwest by either a hill, a group of buildings, or a board fence.

Drainage of the garden is of great importance. The land should have sufficient fall to drain surplus water during heavy rains and yet not be so steep that the soil will be washed or gullied. The surface should be nearly level so the water will not stand in hollows. Where the natural slope of the land does not provide sufficient natural drainage, ditches may be dug or a tile drain put in. This will prevent waste water from the adjoining land from washing over it. Such water may carry weed and grass seed into the garden, which are later culled out with difficulty.

The soil in the average back yard is not only lacking in plant food but also has been packed until it is hard and unyielding. To loosen up such soil and make it suitable for garden produce requires that careful attention be given to its preparation. After spreading the inclosure thoroughly, the upper 2 inches should be made fine with the use of hoe and rake. Stones and rubbish should be removed and clods of dirt broken. The surface should be made even and as level as possible. It may then be marked off for planting in conformity with the general plan of the garden.

Barnyard or stable manure is the best fertilizer because it furnishes both plant food and humus. An application at the rate of from 20 to 30 tons to the acre of well-rotted manure is very satisfactory. This should be applied after plowing or working with a spade and distributed evenly over the surface and later worked in with a hoe and rake. On many soils it is advisable to apply commercial fertilizers, especially phosphate, in addition to the manure. An application of 300 to 600 pounds of acid phosphate to the acre is usually sufficient. If additional potash is needed, which is often the case with sandy soils, this may be economically supplied in the form of wood ashes. If wood ashes are unbleached they should be distributed over the garden, using 1,000 pounds to the acre. If they have been wet, or leached, 2,000 pounds should be used. An application of 100 pounds to the acre of nitrate of soda may be used in the spring to start the plants before the nitrogen in the manure has become available. It should be borne in mind that commercial fertilizers will not yield good results unless the soil is well supplied with humus. Sod or other vegetation which has overgrown a garden spot may be used to advantage. It should be turned under with a plow or a spade and will aid in lightening the soil and providing humus.

The general assembly recently made an appropriation in furtherance of this plan.

The State department of education.

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A Great Agricultural Need.

Our educational system for whites as shown by the school directory consists of:

- 19 Literary colleges.
- 3 Theological institutions.
- 2 Literary institutions with normal departments.
- 1 Normal school.
- 1 Medical college.
- 1 Normal and industrial college.
- 1 Agricultural and mechanical college.
- 175 State aided high schools.
- 275 Rural graded schools.
- 279 "Miscellaneous" public schools and
- 1769 small country schools.

Making a total of 28 colleges and 2546 public schools, all of which, with the exception of 2, are training nearly 200,000 white children annually in the direction of literary or professional pursuits other than industrial. Yet 2 per cent. of our white population or 6 per cent. of our white children would furnish more professional men and women than South Carolina probably needs.

We are training industrially about 1 per cent. of our white children. We are of necessity largely an agricultural state, with large industrial interests otherwise. Practically all mercantile and industrial prosperity is based upon agricultural prosperity. Yet we are leading 90 per cent. of our children towards professional and mercantile livelihoods.

Clemson and Winthrop colleges would be forced to more than double their capacity to accommodate 2 per cent. of our white children. Therefore, they can't ever be expected to more than supply the ever increasing demand for teachers and specialists.

The Farm and Home Extension work with their county agents can't hope to reach more than 10 per cent. of those who need and should have such industrial training. They can work only among adults and a very small per cent. of children. To do more, would require a standing army of agents, and would cost millions of money. The great masses, therefore, are "consumed for want of knowledge"—knowledge that can be put into action—productive action. Such knowledge alone is power. They should have a productive knowledge of the great common things about them—the resources lying at their doors and under their feet. Yet we are mentally waking up nearly 200,000 white children annually to the possibilities of mental action without a knowledge of how to use such mental powers for such future citizens' preservation, to say the least of their prosperity. Even the negro who constitutes 55 per cent. of our population, must also be educated industrially if we are to hope for efficiency in the future.

Agriculture is a science which will probably not be perfected this side the millennium, but enough is known to double our present yields and to at least halve our present fertilizer expenses within the next five years time if practiced. Only a little is necessary to be known and practiced to bring about such results, and that little can be taught in one year from the sixth to the seventh grades of our public schools by the use of "Agriculture for School and Farm," a book of 129 pages, printed and sold at 10¢ per copy by the R. L. Bryan Printing Co., of Columbia, S. C.

1. This book will give the necessary agricultural science.
2. A small school plot on which a miniature farm may be run, will teach the art.
3. Cooperative selling of the products such as eggs, butter and other farm products through an agricultural teacher, will teach the business of agriculture and lead the future population to cooperation which is a watchword of our future.

It is being done in fourteen consolidated rural schools of Darlington county by the employment of only three expert agricultural teachers (see free Clemson college bulletin, "A Rural School Experiment") who teach agriculture in the class room, on the school plot, and in the marketing of community farm products through the school, as a cooperative center, at higher prices than can be otherwise obtained. These agricultural experts teach agriculture, daily going from school to school during school hours, and in the afternoons, on Saturdays and during the summer months, keeping in close touch with the school children and their parents' farm operations, advising, directing and helping in every way possible to build up the agriculture of the communities in which the several schools are located. This work has passed the experimental stage, and is an ideal, economical, practical means of reaching all the people—the great masses, a large per cent. of whom cannot or will not ever enter a high school or college.

The general assembly recently made an appropriation in furtherance of this plan.

The State department of education.

Wilmington Saw It First.

Wilmington saw it first—the advantage of a packing house. The Star exploited it and the Moultrie (Ga.) Chamber of Commerce sent here for copies of The Star exploiting the subject. Thereupon Moultrie got busy and established a packing house that has scored a success. The Star is glad that its influence extends into other States.

Meanwhile The Star has kept on urging first an abattoir and later a packing house for Wilmington. We got the abattoir and sooner or later we are going to have a packing house—just as sure as fate. But when? We ought to have it right away, for if we don't the Eastern North Carolina livestock industry will find a market elsewhere. Just at present it is depending on Richmond, Va.

The Columbia Record is urging the establishment of a packing house at the capital of the Palmetto State. Why? Columbia? Meanwhile, the Florence Times is urging the claims of Florence for a packing house. Clemson College, a progressive State institution, is urging the establishment of at least two packing houses, one for the upper and one for the lower part of the State. Orangeburg has taken the initiative in the lower part of the State, but the Florence Times thus puts in its oar for Florence.

"The announcement comes from Orangeburg that a meeting is to be held in that city on March 16th, for the purpose of establishing a packing house at the cost of not less than \$40,000. This meeting is to be attended by Mr. W. W. Long, the State agent of the Federal Department of Agriculture in charge of the work of farm demonstration which is centered at Clemson College. It is stated that a plan has been formulated by the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry, coordinate with the Farm Demonstration work, for the establishment of two packing plants in the State, one in the up-country and one in the lower part of the State. Orangeburg is right after this plan. We believe that Florence is the place in this section of South Carolina for the establishment of such a plant. The question of establishing such a plant has been agitated by local capitalists in the city of Wilmington, N. C., and it will be remembered that the progressive people of the town of Moultrie, Ga., broke the ice in this variety of enterprise in the South several years ago and have made a splendid success of their venture."

Those Orangeburg folks are on the move. They held a meeting on Thursday and that means business, but Florence has something to think about if Orangeburg falls down on herself. The Columbia Record urges Columbia capitalists to establish a packing house, but if either Orangeburg or Florence takes the initiative, what is the use for Columbia to worry? Whether a packing house is located at Columbia, Orangeburg or Florence, it will provide a sufficient market for all the livestock of lower South Carolina—perhaps for the whole State. Indeed, if Wilmington does not have a packing house, one anywhere in South Carolina could draw on North Carolina for livestock.

The South Atlantic is going to have a packing house somewhere, for it needs it. If it isn't to be at Wilmington, it is going to be at Columbia, Orangeburg or Florence. If it isn't to be at Wilmington, it is going to be at Columbia, Orangeburg or Florence. We hope it will be at Wilmington, unless we do too much watchful waiting while other cities are active on this question.

Those South Carolina towns might wait on Wilmington a while. A big packing house here would furnish South Carolina a fine market for her livestock products. Wilmington saw it first, anyhow.—Wilmington Star.

Washington, March 30.—Secretary of War Baker today authorized the signal corps to purchase in the open market 50 new aeroplanes at ten thousand dollars each.

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THE INSURANCE PROBLEM.

The People of South Carolina Are Able to Protect Themselves and Can Do so if They Will Organize.

Editor Daily Item:

I have just read a long editorial of the News and Courier on the insurance situation. It quotes a bank in Charleston as saying that merchants can not get credit unless the State lets the insurance people come back on their own terms. If I am not mistaken this is the same bank that refused to loan \$50 per bale on staple cotton about 1908 and the shipper had his cotton reshipped to Sumter. This and other transactions like it lost to the State the distinguished service of Mr. Rhett in the United States senate. The News and Courier need not worry about merchants buying goods, unless it is worrying for the sake of the wholesaler or jobber. The retail merchants can and will, and do buy more goods than is best for the county to be sold on credit, and I for one welcome any kind of a bugaboo that will be a kind of restraint of this kind of trade.

I have made the assertion over and over again that for every dollar paid to policy holders of South Carolina for fire and death losses since 1865, one hundred dollars left the State. No insurance advocate has ever produced the figures to disprove this assertion. If it is not so, where did the money come from for the insurance companies to accumulate their vast surpluses? to pay their princely salaries and build their immense office structures?

The best thing Gov. Manning has said since he became governor was that he will not call an extra session of the legislature. Outside of Charleston, and perhaps one or two other counties dominated by their county towns, the candidates who advocate begging the insurance companies to come back to South Carolina will be so badly beaten that they will not know what hit them.

Let all the counties do what has been done in several counties, and what we are doing in Sumter county—organize Farmers' Protective Insurance Associations. The News and Courier says such associations cannot protect the people. I say they can give the people all the legitimate protection they need. Any other assertion is to proclaim that the people expect to get something for nothing. You know and I know and everybody knows that will give any thought to the subject, that insurance companies do business for profit, and not to help the people whom they insure.

The people in the towns and cities can in like manner secure all the protection they ought to have. They certainly can do so, if they will reinsure one another's risks so as to more widely distribute the losses, but when that is done they widen the risk. You know and we all know that if all insurance was mutual, there would be more care and less fire loss. Neighbors would refuse to value too high—they would refuse to insure the careless and the criminally inclined.

For several years I have been in touch with Commissioner McMaster and I believe he has saved to our people millions of money. I believe that the best work Warehouse Commissioner McLaurin has done has been in reducing the insurance rate on cotton. If his efforts brought on this fight; and if the insurance companies have a fight on Commissioner McMaster, then I say we will support them to the bitter end.

For several years I tried to get the Farmers' Union to organize mutual fire insurance. We were always too busy financing cotton. It took a war in Europe to bring about a sane warehouse system. It takes an insurance war to make our people see how they can insure themselves. I have told our people time and again that in the big reserves on our insurance carried in New York we were furnishing the money for the gamblers to break cotton prices and that if we had that money here we would not have to ask any help from the outside to finance our cotton when we wanted to hold for a living price.

I do not care who gets the glory of organizing our people, just so they organize. Every withdrawal and the calling of every loan but puts our people on a sounder financial basis. We have been exploited long enough by foreign money, and the easy living of our own people who sold it to us. I can not for the life of me see why insurance like any other public service corporation should not be regulated by law. People who object to regulation by law forget how these public service corporations prey upon the unorganized people until the people rise in self defence, and try to regulate them. Then the cry from capital and its beneficiaries is that the people would drive out capital, when the people are only protecting themselves from the inordinate greed of capital. If there is too much legislative regulation the corporations, and not the people are responsible. I want to commend The Item, The State, and several other papers for the sensible stand they have taken that the people can protect themselves. Will they do so. Last Saturday's meeting looks like they will.

Health News Notes.

Do you know that four per cent of the inhabitants of certain sections of the South have malaria?

The United States Public Health Service has trapped 615,744 rodents in New Orleans in the past 18 months?

The careless sneezer is the great grip spreader?

Open air is the best spring tonic?

Typhoid fever is a disease peculiar to man?

Measles kills over 11,000 American children annually?

There has not been a single case of yellow fever in the United States since 1905?

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